GUS THE GHOST — Quick Reference

Beginner · 6½–7 in · 2–3 hrs · 8 mm hook · super bulky (#6) white yarn

Yarn: ~70 g white super bulky. **Also:** 8 mm hook, fiberfill, 2× 12 mm safety eyes (or black yarn to embroider), black + pink yarn scraps, marker, tapestry needle, scissors. Spiral rounds — marker in first st of every round; gauge not critical.

Materials checklist

■ White super bulky yarn (~70 g) ■ 8 mm hook ■ Fiberfill ■ 2× 12 mm safety eyes ■ Black/pink yarn scraps ■ Marker ■ Tapestry needle ■ Scissors

Abbreviations

MR magic ring · ch chain · sl st slip stitch · sc single crochet · dc double crochet · inc increase (2 sc same st) · st(s) stitch(es) · R round. No hdc, no dec in this pattern.

The Body (top down)

Start: magic ring (or ch 2, work R1 in 2nd ch from hook); pull ring closed.

R1: 6 sc into the ring **(6 sts)**

R2: inc in each st around **(12 sts)**

R3: [sc in next st, inc in next st] × 6 **(18 sts)**

R4: [sc in next 2 sts, inc in next st] × 6 **(24 sts)**

R5–R13: sc in each st around — 9 rounds, no shaping **(24 sts)**

Stuff through the open bottom: firm and even, all the way to the top. *Plump, not lumpy.*

Round 14 — The Wavy Hem

R14: [skip 1 st, 5 dc in next st, skip 1 st, sl st in next st] × 6 **(6 scallops)**

One repeat = skip 1, fan of 5 dc in next st, skip 1, sl st in next. 6 × 4 = 24 — every stitch used. Fasten off, 4-in tail, weave in. Hem lets Gus sit flat.

The Face

Eyes: between R9–R10, ~5 sts apart, same side (front). Safety eyes + washers from inside, *or* embroider two small vertical black lines — safer for little kids. **Smile:** gentle upward arc below/between eyes, ~4 sts wide. **Cheeks (optional):** pink French knots or tiny felt circles.

Finishing

1. Stuff firmly (if not done). 2. Set on table — hem sits flat, open bottom faces down. 3. Weave in all tails. 4. Tug any loose stitch tails gently.

Troubleshooting

• Hole at top → cinch ring tail tighter. • Hem ripples → recount: skip 1, fan, skip 1, sl st. • Leaning → even out stuffing. • Count off by one → recount with a finger; usually a miscount.